

ABConnections

an e-newsletter for ABC Boards in NC

In February Gov. Pat McCrory appointed a new chairman and two new members to serve as the North Carolina ABC Commission.

Chairman Jim Gardner, former Lt. Gov. of North Carolina, and Commissioners Joel Keith and Kevin Green were sworn in March 4 during a brief ceremony. The Honorable Mark D. Martin, Senior Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina delivered the oath to the new members.



From left are Commissioner Kevin Green, Chairman Jim Gardner and Commissioner Joel Keith.



In March, Chairman Gardner welcomes Gov. McCrory to the ABC Commission.



Commissioner Keith and Chairman Gardner show Gov. McCrory the growing variety of products available from NC distilleries.



Governor McCrory greets ABC Commission staff and tours the warehouse.



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ABC
COMMISSION
NORTH CAROLINA

ABC BOARD TRANSITIONS

Wade Clifton served as Manager of the Ocean Isle Beach ABC store. His obituary is below:

Daniel Wade Clifton, 62, of Ocean Isle Beach, NC died Thursday February 28, 2013 in the SECU Hospice Center, Bolivia, NC. Born in Columbus County, NC on July 5, 1950, he was a son of the late Joel Curtis and Susan Lycia Leonard Clifton, Sr. In addition to his parents he was predeceased by two brothers, Robert Clifton and Joel Curtis Clifton, Jr. Wade grew up in Whiteville, NC working at the family store, Clifton's Fish Market. He attended school in Whiteville and graduated from Whiteville High School where he won the State Science Award by developing an x-ray machine. He attended East Carolina University where he majored in physics. For years he traveled extensively working with the start-up of nuclear plants. Wade returned to Ocean Isle Beach, and along with his family, developed the Crownstream Subdivision where he served as treasurer of the Crownstream Inc. and the Crownstream POA. He was the manager at the Ocean Isle Beach ABC Store. Surviving are two sisters; Nancy Clifton Davis and Sandra Clifton Ward, both of Ocean Isle Beach; and a brother, William Chester Clifton and wife Grace, of Ocean Isle Beach, NC; nieces Felycia Clifton, Amber Clifton and Jonell Williams; nephews Stetson Boyd, Jeff Ward and Terry Clifton. Funeral services were conducted March 3, 2013 in the Brunswick Funeral Service Chapel, Shallotte, NC. Burial followed in Palmyra Baptist Church Cemetery, Old Dock, NC. Memorials may be directed to the SECU Hospice House 955 Mercy Lane SE, Bolivia, NC 28422. Private online condolences may be sent to the family at www.brunswickfuneralservice.com



Retirement – Patsy Blake

Following is a personal note from Patsy Blake, retiring as Pender County General Manager May 1

I came to work for Pender County ABC June, 1982 as bookkeeper/secretary and later as Assistant Manager. I was appointed General Manager

January, 2003 with the retirement of Patricia Geddes. The biggest change I have seen has been going from manual to computer. I still remember the days it took to do the monthly report and now it can be printed on the first day of the next month. The most interesting thing I have observed is how the economy affects the sales in the stores and what size and brands the customers purchase during the good and bad times. I have relied on and appreciated the support I have received from other General Managers and employees from other systems and from the NCABC Commission staff. I have respect for and friendship with the many sales representatives that I have known over the years. I feel fortunate to have been a part of Pender County ABC system and work with board members and employees, past and present, which have made the system successful.

Retirement -- Judy Harrell

Following is a personal note from Judy Harrell, retiring as Bertie County ABC General Manager June 30

I'll be 65 in June, and that's the time to hang it up and go fishing. I grew up in Chowan County, married and moved to Bertie County. I've been working with the Bertie ABC system for 20 years. I started part-time and have been manager for 11 years. It's a job that's not as easy as I thought it would be. But it is an experience everyone should have, working with the public. I've met a lot of nice people, a lot of travelers, and some not-so-nice shoplifters -- it's getting to be a tough world. I've enjoyed meeting the other managers and supervisors -- from the mountains and all across the state. You learn a lot from meeting other people and attending the meetings that you would not learn any other way.

Retirement – Kay Billings

Kay began work on January 15, 1972 as secretary and bookkeeper with the first ABC store in Lexington under the leadership of store manager Bob McGinn. She was promoted in 1994 to General Manager upon Mr. McGinn's retirement. Kay spent her remaining 19 years as store manager and secretary of the board. She was instrumental in two renovations at the North Main Street Store and the opening of a second store in May, 2002 at the High Rock Landing Shopping Center on N.C. Highway #8. Kay retired recently with 41 years of service. (Information submitted by Brenda Leonard, Interim Manager, City of Lexington ABC Board)